JANUARY, 1930] MARTIN—DIODYRHYNCHUS

NOTES ON THE GENUS DIODYRHYNCHUS SCH. WITH A DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES (COLEOPTERA)

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The genus Diodyrhynchus of Schœnherr¹ has remained since 1880² with but a single North American species (byturoides Lec.) which was described from the Sierra Nevada of California. From an examination of a series of nine males and eleven females of byturoides, all taken in the Sierras, and in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences, I record the following observations on the sexual characters in the above species. In the males the prothorax is noticeably narrower than the base of the elytra, while in the females it is fully as wide. The beak of the female is more curved and stouter than that of the male. The male thorax is widest at about the middle, while that of the female is widest at about the basal third and not at base as stated by Dr. Le Conte. The underside of the body of the females is piceous with the exception of the anal segment, while all of the males are testaceous above and below. In some instances the females are, with the exception of the prothorax, entirely black, but I have seen no males thus colored. The most important sexual difference is to be noted on the third and fourth abdominal segments on each of which are two large, shallow punctures or pits, one on each side of the median line, and from which extends a pointed brush of white hairs.

This genus may at once be separated from Rhynomacer by the way the beak joins the front. In Rhynomacer the front rises from the beak at a much greater angle. In Diodyrhynchus the front is in almost the same plane and only a slight sinuation marks the separation.

In the L. S. Slevin collection, recently presented to the Academy, I find a series of twenty-four specimens evidently belonging to this genus and representing an undescribed species. Mr. Slevin informs me that they were taken on the beach at Carmel, California, where they were washed up by the waves in company with numerous specimens of a species of Rhyno-

¹ Gen. Sp. Curc., 1833, Tome I, p. 240.

² Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., VII, 1880, p. 215.

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macer. A majority of the specimens were taken in February, which is about the normal season for the Monterey pines to be in blossom, and I suspect that this species, like Rhynomacer, is a pine-blossom feeder and in flight falls into the water.

Diodyrhynchus slevini Martin, sp. nov.

Elongate oblong-oval, convex, testaceous throughout except that in the female the thoracic and abdominal segments are piceous. Head obscurely, coarsely punctate with rather coarse long, white decumbent hairs on the front between the eyes which grow shorter, finer and more scattered toward the vertex; the punctuation of the beak is more definite, hairy on the sides but not on the upper surface which is flat and without grooves or carina, the beak is more quadrate in cross section than in byturoides and, like that species, the female beak is more curved. Eyes black, prominent, finely faceted. Prothorax rather coarsely and moderately punctate, less so on the disk, with long decumbent white hairs on the sides, becoming finer and more scattered toward the base; narrower than base of elytra in the male but fully as wide in the female, widest just before the middle in the male and at basal third in female, in which sex there is a slight longitudinal depression above the median line. On the female prothorax behind the eyes is an elevated area which extends downward along the border with blunt tooth-like granulations which vary considerably in size and shape in different specimens, the toothed portion being immediately behind the eyes. Elytra more densely punctate than the prothorax with long, white decumbent hairs on the sides becoming shorter and finer toward the suture; in the female there is a shallow, curved, oblique depression starting near the humeral angle and extending beyond basal third to the suture where it is broadest and deepest; this depression is present but less pronounced in the males. Sternum, abdomen and legs with sparse white decumbent hairs.

On the fourth abdominal segment of the male on the median line is a single large shallow pit or puncture with a pointed brush of white hairs, which is entirely lacking in the female. Length, 3 to 4 mm.

Type: Male, No. 2625, and allotype, female, No. 2626, in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

Diodyrhynchus slevini differs from byturiodes Lec. by its smaller size, its longer, coarser and more irregular hairs, as well as by the single abdominal brush in the male, and the roughened prothoracic area behind the eyes in the female which are not present in byturoides.

I take pleasure in dedicating this species to Mr. L. S. Slevin, whose careful collecting has done so much to make known the interesting insect fauna of the Monterey peninsula.